

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: 15Q Special Duty Assignment Pay (SDAP)

1. **Purpose.** To provide information on the Air Traffic Control Operator (15Q), Special Duty Assignment Pay (SDAP).

2. **Points of major interest and facts.**

a. The request for 15Q Special Duty Assignment Pay (SDAP) was initially submitted in July of 1998. SDAP was approved with a start date of October 2000 (FY 01). On 30 January 2002, 67 additional positions consisting of A2C2 Liaisons, Drivers assigned to the ATC Platoons and Scope Operators in support of DEA were approved with an effective date of 1 February 2002.

b. SDAP is authorized for controllers in the rank of PFC or higher, who are assigned to an MTOE or TDA position designated by Headquarters, USAAVNC. These positions must include permanent assignment (not attachment) to an ATC facility and must involve the active controlling of aircraft in a non-simulated environment. Individuals assigned to special duty assignments or non-specified staff positions (i.e.; Recruiting, Drill Sergeants, Command Drivers, Bde/Bn/Co Staff, Directorate Staff (i.e.; DOTDS, AP), DARRs and Instructors) are not eligible for SDAP. Controllers whose primary duty positions are outside of the facility, yet are assigned to a facility do not qualify for SDAP (e.g.; soldier is assigned as a training NCO for a tower, but primary job is the Company Training NCO, this soldier does not qualify for SDAP).

c. The following staff positions will receive SDAP at the SD-3 level:

(1) Battalion Quality Assurance NCOs

(2) Platoon Sergeants

(3) Evaluation Sergeants

(4) JRTC/NTC O/Cs

(5) A2C2 Liaisons

(6) Scope Operators with the Joint Inter-Agency Task Force in support of the Drug Enforcement Agency

ATZQ-AP

SUBJECT: 15Q Special Duty Assignment Pay (SDAP)

d. The SDAP is a stepped type of pay, meaning that the amount that you receive will be based on your experience level and current rating status. There are two SDAP pay brackets. The amount a soldier receives is based on the following:

(1) Level 1 – SD-3, \$225.00 per month for controllers during enrollment in a facility training program, and while assigned to those positions designated in paragraph 2c(1)-(6) of this Information Paper.

(2) Level 2 – SD-4, \$300.00 per month for controllers that are facility rated. When a Control Tower Operator (CTO) and an Air Traffic Control Specialist (ATCS) certification are applicable to a tower, the soldier will not receive SD-4 until CTO rated.

e. In addition to the rating requirements, fixed base controllers must maintain monthly currency based on hours/approaches, (IAW AIG Message 93-18) in the facility to which assigned.

f. A valid Class IV (ATC) Flight Physical must be maintained by all controllers receiving SDAP.

g. Soldiers will have their SDAP terminated when the following situations occur.

(1) During a PCS, the losing unit will terminate SDAP. The soldiers SDAP may be reinstated as shown below.

(a) SDAP will be reinstate by the gaining unit at SD-3 (\$225) upon assignment to an authorized SDAP position, and enrollment into a facility training program IAW para 2b.

(b) SDAP will be increased to SD-4 (\$300) upon obtaining a facility rating.

(2) While attending schools in a “TDY Enroute” status.

(3) When a fixed base controller fails to meet the monthly currency requirements based on hours/approaches, as outlined in AIG Message 93-18 (40/24 hours as applicable to assigned position or 10 approaches) for three consecutive months (except while attending a military school in a “TDY and Return” status).

(4) When a soldier’s temporary grounding goes beyond 90 days.

(5) Upon indefinite or permanent grounding, pending chapter, reclassification or suspended from ATC duties.

ATZQ-AP

SUBJECT: 15Q Special Duty Assignment Pay (SDAP)

(6) When a soldier fails to make sufficient progress in a Facility Training Program (ex; soldier fails to complete Phase 1 of a tactical training program within six months (includes a waiver from commander and a waiver from USAATCA)).

(7) When a soldier no longer performs duties in positions designated, no longer meets any of the criteria listed above, or fails to meet the requirements of AR 614-200.

h. Additional guidance can be found in AIG Message 00-09 and MILPER Message 00-252 in reference to actual implementation and monitoring of the MOS 15Q SDAP Program.

i. A new listing is provided on the Aviation Proponency Website at [<http://www-rucker.army.mil/ap/ap.htm>] under "Hot Info". This listing includes Duty Positions (IAW DA PAM 611-21) that are authorized SDAP. It does not include UIC, Paragraph and Line Numbers. This listing requires the commander to play a greater role in authorizing SDAP. Commanders must first verify that the duty position is authorized SDAP. It is the commander's responsibility to determine if a soldier meets the remaining criteria listed in the AIG and the MILPER Messages referenced in para 2h.

3. This information paper will be updated as required.

4. USAAVNC point of contact can be reached at the Aviation Proponency Office, DSN 558-1424, Commercial (334) 255-1424 or email: ATZQAP@rucker.army.mil.

Approved By: \\ ORIGINAL SIGNED\\
THOMAS W. YOUNG
COL, AV
Director, Aviation Proponency